

LEDBURY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Interim

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health

for the year

1941.STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.Medical Officer of Health:

WILLIAM HOGG, M.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., M.R.S.I.

Clerical Staff:

O.N.LITTLE. (Temporary Appointment).

U.E.PARTRIDGE. (Temporary Appointment).

Telephone - Ross 214.

County Offices,
Alton Street,
Ross-on-Wye.Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor:

E.E.JORDAN, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1941. The publication of the report has been greatly delayed owing to pressure of work in the Department, and the report itself has been much abbreviated. It is therefore, to be regarded as an interim report.

I take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation to the Council for the support which I have always received in the discharge of my duties.

Also I wish to thank my colleagues who have assisted me in the preparation of this report and throughout the year.

I remain, Mr.Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

Medical Officer of Health.

July 1943.

SECTION A. - STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA:

Area (in Acres)	49,867
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1941) according to Rate Books	2,496
Rateable Value	£33,091
Sum represented by a penny rate	£138, 9. 11

Extract from Vital Statistics of the Year:

<u>Birth Rate</u> per 1,000 of estimated resident population ...	12.2
<u>Stillbirths</u> Rate per 1,000 (live & still) births ...	20.2
<u>Death Rate</u> per 1,000 of estimated resident population (crude)	11.2

Deaths from Puerperal Causes:

	<u>Deaths.</u>	<u>Rate per 1,000 Total Births.</u>
Heading No.29 ... Puerperal Sepsis	Nil.	Nil.
Heading No.30 ... Other Puerperal Causes	Nil.	Nil.

Death Rate of Infants Under One Year of Age:

All infants per 1,000 live births	59.6
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	62.0
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil

SECTION B. - GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA:Laboratory Facilities:-

The number of specimens examined by the County and City Public Health Laboratory during the year were as follows:-

Swabs	124
Sputum	17
Faeces	9
Blood	8
Milk	6
Water - Chemical examination ...	45
Bacteriological " ...	51
	<u>260</u>

SECTION C. - SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA:

Water: The supervision which the Department maintains over water supplies was continued throughout the year and 45 samples of potable waters from various supplies were sent for chemical examination and 50 for bacteriological examination. Of these samples 26 were found not to be fit for potable purposes as a result of chemical examination and 35 were unsatisfactory as a result of bacteriological examination.

Drainage: The sewers and sewage disposal works in the Parish of Colwall were maintained in good order throughout the year. Fifteen new drains were constructed in connection with dwelling houses and 6 existing drains were improved.

Closet Accommodation: The Department secured the conversion of 2 privies to pail closets and 5 privies were replaced by water closets.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area:

The Sanitary Inspector, Mr. E.E. Jordan, continued to discharge his duties throughout the year with efficiency and tact. Mr. E.G. Watkins, Assistant to the Sanitary Inspector was called to the colours in 1940. The loss of his services was felt most during September in connection with the inspection of hop-picker's camps.

I am indebted to the Inspector for the following statement furnished in accordance with Article 27 (Sub-section 18) of the Sanitary (Outside London) Regulations 1935:-

Inspections:

Building Bye Laws	...	...	...	...	...	30
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	3
Dairies and Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	...	79
Factories with Mechanical Power	...	...	...	...	...	11
Factories without Mechanical Power	...	...	...	...	...	3
Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925	...	...	...	...	...	nil
Other Housing Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	17
Hop-picker's Quarters	...	...	...	...	...	20
Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	...	44
Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	16
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	5
Slaughter Houses	...	...	...	...	...	nil
Water Supplies	...	...	...	...	...	70
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	20
						<u>318</u>

Notices Issued:

Informal	...	...	...	...	...	24
Statutory re Housing	...	...	...	...	...	nil
Statutory under other Acts	...	...	...	...	...	5

Summary of Defects Remedied:

New Wells Sunk	...	...	...	...	...	1
Wells cleansed and Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	12
Houses supplied from Waterworks	...	...	...	...	...	nil
House Drains laid or relaid	...	...	...	...	...	15
Drains cleansed trapped and ventilated	...	...	...	...	...	6
Defective Waste-pipes rectified	...	...	...	...	...	6
Defective W.C.s, Sinks and Urinals rectified	...	...	...	...	...	3
Drains and Sanitary Fittings repaired	...	...	...	...	...	6
New W.C.s provided	...	...	...	...	...	6
Disinfections after Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	...	36
Houses cleansed and lime washed	...	...	...	...	...	4
Privies converted to Pail Closets	...	...	...	...	...	2
Privies converted to Water Closets	...	...	...	...	...	5
Pail Closets converted to Water Closets	...	...	...	...	...	nil

School Clasures:

Period.

Cause.

Wellington Heath Infants	10. 2.41. - 14. 2.41.	Chickenpox & Colds.
Much Marcle	29. 5.41. - 6. 6.41.	Measles.
Putley	9. 6.41. - 13. 6.41.	Measles.
Wellington Heath Hope End	9. 6.41. - 13. 6.41.	Measles & Mumps.
Putley	16. 6.41. - 20. 6.41.	Measles.
Wellington Heath Hope End	16. 6.41. - 20. 6.41.	Measles & Mumps.
Wellington Heath Hope End	23. 6.41. - 27. 6.41.	Measles & Mumps.
Wellington Heath Infants	7. 7.41. - 18. 7.41.	Mumps.
Eastnor P.	17.11.41. - 21.11.41.	Mumps.
Eastnor P.	24.11.41. - 28.11.41.	Mumps.

Hop-picker's Quarters:

Twenty of these premises were inspected during the year. I feel that this is inadequate but more efficient inspection cannot be achieved by the Inspector at the present time.

SECTION D. - HOUSING:

The Department continued to secure the good maintenance of houses, 17 inspections being made for this purpose and several repairs were secured details of which are given in the statement of the Sanitary Inspector.

SECTION E. - INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD:

Supervision of food supplies continued throughout the year. Six samples of milk were examined by bacteriological methods at the County and City Laboratory, Hereford, for the presence of pathogenic organisms. The result of the examinations proved these to be satisfactory.

Inspection of dairies and cowsheds was maintained, 79 inspections being made.

SECTION F. - PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE:

Notifiable Diseases during the Year 1941:-

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.
Measles	217	2	-
Whooping Cough	91	-	-
Scarlet Fever	34	13	-
Pneumonia	15	3	-
Diphtheria	11	11	-
Cerebro Spinal Fever	4	4	-
Erysipelas	2	-	-
Typhoid	1	1	1
Dysentery	1	-	-

Analysis of Total Notified Cases according to Age:-

Disease.	Under 1	1+	2+	3+	4+	5+	10+	15+	20+	35+	45+	65 & Over	Totals.
Measles	6	4	4	6	11	93	69	12	10	2	-	-	217
Whooping Cough	5	9	8	13	8	35	11	2	-	-	-	-	91
Scarlet Fever	-	-	1	1	2	15	7	2	5	-	1	-	34
Pneumonia	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	4	5	2	15
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	2	5	1	1	1	-	1	-	11
Cerebro Spinal Fever	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	4
Erysipelas	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Totals	13	13	14	20	24	149	88	20	18	6	8	3	376

Tuberculosis:-

On the 1st. January 1941 there was a total of 24 cases of Tuberculosis on the Register; of these 17 were pulmonary and 7 non-pulmonary.

During the year, 14 notifications were received - 9 pulmonary and 5 non-pulmonary. There were 10 cases - 8 pulmonary and 2 non-pulmonary - removed from the Register during the year leaving a total of 28 cases - 18 pulmonary and 10 non-pulmonary- on the Register on the 31st. December 1941.

New Cases and Mortality during Year 1941:-

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory.		Non-respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0+	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
1+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5+	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-
15+	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
25+	2	2	-	-	1	-	-	-
35+	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	-
45+	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 & Over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-